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ABSTRACT

This volume is a companion to "Adult Education: Outlines of an Emerging Field of University Study" (more commonly known as "the black book"), a classic work published in 1964. It explores the developments, accomplishments, and changes in the field since 1964 and charts new directions for research, theory, and practice in the study of adult education. A foreword (Houle), preface, and biographies of the authors appear first. An introductory chapter, "Growth and Challenges in the Study of Adult Education" (Jarvis), outlines the nature of adult education as a field of study and some of the challenges that lie before it. The six chapters in Part 1 address in broad terms who studies the field, how they study it, and some of the outcomes: "Changing Relationships between Theory and Practice" (Cervero); "How Research Produces Knowledge" (Merriam); "Evolution of a Formal Knowledge Base" (Long); "The Impact of Intellectual Leadership" (Griffith); "Disseminating and Using Adult Education Knowledge" (Brockett); and "Growth and Future of Graduate Programs" (Peters, Kreitlow). Part 2 contains six chapters, each of which considers the relation of selected disciplines to the study of adult education: "The Psychology of Adult Teaching and Learning" (Tennant); "Educational Leadership and Program Administration" (Knox); "A Critical Perspective on Sociology and Adult Education" (Griffin); "Philosophical Foundations" (Lawson); "Relationships with Political Science" (Thomas); and "Learning from the Discipline of History" (Stubblefield). Part 3 contains three chapters that deal with special issues and forces that help shape the academic study of adult education: "International Influences on the Development of Knowledge" (Cunningham); "Social, Professional, and Academic Issues" (Deshler); and "Advancing the Study of Adult Education: A Summary Perspective" (Peters). In an epilogue, Malcolm Knowles takes a fresh look at the future of adult education as a field of study and practice. Standards for graduate programs in adult education are appended, and name and subject indexes conclude the volume. (YLB)